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UPDATE (4/1/2021, 1:44pm): Former Williamson County Sheriff Chody Also Indicted for Tampering with Evidence

AUSTIN, TX -- Today, Travis County District Attorney José Garza announced the return of an indictment by a Travis County grand jury against former Williamson County Sheriff Robert Chody for the 3rd degree felony charge of Tampering with Physical Evidence for events surrounding the death of Javier Ambler. The court has set bond in the amount of \$15,000. The charge will be prosecuted by the District Attorney Office's Civil Rights Unit and is pending in the 299th Judicial District Court.

District Attorney Announces Evidence Tampering Indictment of Former Williamson County General Counsel in Javier Ambler Case

AUSTIN, TX (3/31/2021) -- Today, Travis County District Attorney José Garza announced the return of an indictment by a Travis County grand jury against former general counsel for the Williamson County Attorney's Office Jason Nassour for the 3rd degree felony charge of Tampering with Physical Evidence for events surrounding the death of Javier Ambler. The court has set bond in the amount of \$15,000. The charge will be prosecuted by the District Attorney Office's Civil Rights Unit and is pending in the 299th Judicial District Court.

In addition, the same grand jury heard evidence related to the involvement of former Williamson County Sheriff Robert Chody. As to Mr. Chody, Texas law prohibits the disclosure of an indictment until a capias for the person charged is executed.

The charge stems from events surrounding the death of Mr. Ambler and missing video footage. The video remains unaccounted for to this day. Mr. Nassour was indicted today by a Travis County Grand Jury who found probable cause to believe that, knowing that an investigation was pending or in progress, Nassour tampered with physical evidence with the intent to impair its availability as evidence in the investigation.

"I know that these indictments will not bring peace to the Ambler family. No parent should have to bury their child," said Travis County District Attorney José Garza. "But we remain committed to seeing this through on behalf of not just Javier Ambler, but also our community."

This is the second evidence tampering charge against Mr. Nassour in relation to the Live PD footage in the Javier Ambler case. In September 2020, a Williamson County grand jury returned an indictment of Mr. Nassour on a felony evidence tampering charge for the destruction of Live PD video footage. Former Williamson county Sheriff Robert Chody was also indicted for the same charge.

This indictment follows two other indictments announced by Travis County District Attorney Garza on March 30th of former Williamson County Sheriff's Deputies James Johnson and Zachary Camden for the charge of 2nd degree Manslaughter in the death of Javier Ambler. Charges against the former deputies will be prosecuted by the District Attorney Office's Civil Rights Unit and is pending in the 299th Judicial District Court.

Earlier this month, the same grand jury returned [an indictment](#) against an Austin Police Department officer for the charge of 1st degree Murder of Michael Ramos.

In keeping with a commitment to transparency in these cases, the District Attorney's Office has been publicly releasing updates every 14 days on every case pending in the Office's Civil Rights Unit. The most recent update can be found [here](#)

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